

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRASIL 02212 251656Z

61

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 OES-03 CCO-00

OTPE-00 FCC-01 OC-05 COME-00 BIB-01 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10 OPIC-03 XMB-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01

AID-05 SS-15 CU-02 /095 W
----- 091476

R 251600Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8299

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 2212

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, BR

SUBJECT: DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE

REF: A - STATE 52253 B - RIO 432

1. SUMMARY- SPECIFICATIONS FOR GOB DOMESTIC SATELLITE SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY LATE 1975; CONTRACT AWARDS MADE IN JUNE 1976, AND DELIVERY OF SATELLITES TO BEGIN 1978. OVERALL PROJECT ESTIMATED \$150 TO \$200 MILLION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MARCH 19 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, HUGHES AIRCRAFT OFFICIALS, WHEELON, VISHER, AND BOWMAN, SAID THAT THEIR INITIAL MEETING WITH GOB SEVEN-MAN WORKING GROUP CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN FORMULATING SATELLITE PROJECT HAD REVEALED THAT PROJECT PLAN IS TO BE COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER AND THAT FINAL GOB DECISION WOULD BE MADE IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER. COMPANY REPS SAID THAT PREPARATION OF BIDS WOULD TAKE A COUPLE OF MONTHS AND THAT CONTRACT AWARDS WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE AROUND JUNE 1976.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRASIL 02212 251656Z

THEY ESTIMATED OVERALL PROJECT WOULD AMOUNT TO \$150-\$200

MILLION, DEPENDING ON HOW FAR SCOPE OF SATELLITE PROJECCT
EXTENDED INTO DOMESTIC TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

3. WHILE INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISION (REF B) INDICATED
GOB INTENTION TO PURCHASE THREE SATELLITES WITH ONE RESERVE
IN ORBIT AND ANOTHER ON GROUND, THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT
PROJECT MAY CALL FOR FOUR SATELLITES WITH TWO FUNCTIONING IN
ORBIT, ONE STANDBY IN ORBIT, AND ONE IN RESERVE ON GROUND.
HUGHES REPS COMMENTED THAT THIS LATTER POSSIBILITY MADE
MORE SENSE FOR BRAZIL AND INDICATED HUGHES WAS MAINLY INTER-
ESTED IN SUPPLYING SATELLITES RATHER THEN GROUND EQUIPMENT.
THEY SAID GOB TEAM IS CURRENTLY THINKING OF ABOUT 47 EARTH
STATIONS, WHICH COMPANY OFFICIALS SAID WOULD BE MOSTLY 30
TO 60 FEET ANTENNAE, PLUS AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF TV-ONLY
RECEIVING STATIONS.

4. HUGHES OFFICIALS HAD MEETING SCHEDULED LATER IN DAY
WITH COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER QUANDT AND WERE THEN DEPARTING
FOR RIO FOR TALKS WITH EMBRATEL. HUGHES OFFICIALS VISITED
CONGEN RIO MARCH 21. THEY EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE ADMIRATION
FOR BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR STUDYING AND DRAFTING
SPECIFICATIONS FOR DOMESTIC SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.
DELIVERY OF SATELLITES WOULD BE TWO YEARS FROM DATE OF CONTRACT,
E.E. PRESUMABLY LATE 1978. NUMBER OF GROUND STATIONS FOR SYSTEM STILL
INDEFINITE, BUT EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO DOMESTIC PRODUCTION
BY BRAZILIAN RATHER THEN MULTINATIONAL FIRM. SYSTEM MAY
CONTAIN SIX LARGE GROUND STATIONS (90 FEET) INITIALLY.
NUMBER OF SMALL STATIONS, E.E. 10 AND 20 FEET DIAMETETS,
WILL PROBABLY BE A FUNCTION OF THE BUDGET, WHICH HAS BEEN
SET AT \$150 MILLION.

5. HUGHES OFFICIALS STILL BELIEVE GOB INTENDS TO PURCHASE
THREE SATELLITES AT \$30 TO \$40 MILLION. MINISTER QUANDT
CONFIRMED THIS IMPRESSION. HUGHES OFFICIALS FEEL SOME
POSSIBILITY MIGHT EXIST FOR A 4-SATELLITE SYSTEM. SUCH A
PROGRAM WOULD RECEIVE CONSIDERATION ONLY IF SUCH OTHER
GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AS MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND ARMY
PARTICIPATE FULLY IN PROGRAM, WHICH APPARENTLY IS STILL
UNCERTAIN. FOUR-SATELLITE SYSTEM, HOWEVER, WOULD
PROBABLY NOT FIT WITHIN \$150 MILLION BUDGET LIMITATION.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRASIL 02212 251656Z

6. MAJOR COMPETITORS FOR SUPPLY OF SATELLITE ARE HUGHES,
PHILCO-FORD AND, AS MARGINAL CONTENDER, EUROPEAN
CONSORTIUM. MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS APPARENTLY WANTS
SUPPLIERS TO RETAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR GROUND CONTROL
STATION UNTIL BRAZILIAN TECHNICIANS ARE FULLY TRAINED, PER-
HAPS FOR UP TO TWO YEARS. FOR ITS PART, HUGHES ASKS THAT
WE URGE NASA TO SIMPLIFY ITS PROCEDURES IN ORDER THAT BRAZIL

HAVE LESS TROUBLE THAN INDONESIA, FOR EXAMPLE, IN PURCHASING A LAUNCH ROCKET.

7. ON MARCH 21, AMBASSADOR RECEIVED VISIT FROM GE OFFICIALS SMILEY AND SENYK FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING WITH DR. BENJAMIN HIMELGRYN, WHO HEADS GOB TEAM DEVELOPING SATELLITE PROJECT. GE IS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN SUPPLYING EARTH STATION SYSTEMS AND IS IN PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING LOCAL COMPANY, WITH BRAZILIAN FIRM TV GLOBO AS MAJORITY SHAREHOLDER, FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF EQUIPMENT FOR SATELLITE PROJECT. GE REPS SAID THAT GOB OFFICIALS HAD MENTIONED TO THEM THAT SATELLITE SYSTEM WOULD POSSIBLY HAVE 60 GROUND STATIONS AND 200 TV-ONLY RECEIVING STATIONS.

8. COMMENT - VARYING ESTIMATES AS TO SIZE OF EARTH SYSTEM AND OPEN POSSIBILITY OF FOUR SATELLITE SYSTEM INDICATE BROAD RANGE OF GOB CONCEPTUAL THINKING AT THIS STAGE, ALTHOUGH WITH SEPTEMBER DEADLINE GOB TEAM IS UNDER PRESSURE TO MAKE TECHNICAL DECISIONS.

NQFOAO SANTELLIN UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IN MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, TOLD EMBOFF THAT GOB IS SENDING 10 ENGINEERS TO LONDON IN APRIL

FOR SYMPOSIUM ON SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS. HE INDICATED GOB TECHNICIANS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONTACTS WITH US COUNTERPARTS DURING SYMPOSIUM AND IN POSSIBILITY IN VISIT TO

US BEFORE RETURNING TO BRAZIL.
CRIMMINS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL02212
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750104-0717
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750319/aaaaarbl.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 A -, 75 STATE 52253, 75 B -, 75 RIO 432
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, BR, HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY, (WHEELON, ALBERT D), (VISHER, PAUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006